

The AV1611 - The Pure Word of God

Introduction

I wrote "*O Biblios*" – *The Book* to show that the above title is true but let's start at the beginning. *The book is now available online, updated and extended.

*See www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/.

The Psalmist said, "*Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it,*" Psalm 119:140.

The question is what is that pure word of God? These days, not many seem Christians seem to know.

You've probably heard it said:

"The AV is the best translation but it is not perfect. You still have to go to the Greek and the Hebrew to get the right wording for some passages."*

*"The Greek and the Hebrew" so-called are generally undefined.

That statement is the Devil's lie.

Some would have us think that belief in the AV1611 as God's pure word is new and strange. That is not so.

Thomas DeWitt Talmage was a great preacher of the 19th century. He said this in 1880 (1) p 293:

"Now let us divide off...Let those people who do not believe the Bible and who are critical of this and that part of it, go clear over to the other side. Let them stand behind the devil's guns...Give us the out-and-out opposition of infidelity rather than the work of these hybrid theologians, these mongrel ecclesiastics, these half-evolved people who BELIEVE the Bible and do NOT believe it. I TAKE UP THE KING JAMES TRANSLATION; I CONSIDER IT TO BE A PERFECT BIBLE" (Vol. 4, p187; Vol. 18, p255).

He was only stating what ordinary Christians of that time already believed.

'Originals Onlyism'

However, since that time, it has become increasingly popular for educated Christians to insist on "*the originals*" as the only pure word of God. This notion in modern times was propagated by two academics from Princeton Theological Seminary, Archibald Hodge and Benjamin Warfield, in *The Presbyterian Review*, 1881, Vol. 2, No. 6, pp 237-8. They stated their belief as follows, in an article entitled *Inspiration*, this author's emphasis.

"All the affirmations of Scripture of all kinds, whether of spiritual doctrine or duty, or of physical or historical fact, or of psychological or philosophical principle, are without any error, when the ipsissima verba [the precise words] of the original autographs are ascertained and interpreted in their natural and intended sense."

All copies and therefore Bible translations are said to be "*imperfect,*" because "*the original reading may have been lost.*" Hodge and Warfield's article has influenced most of the body of Christ since then. Few Christians actually believe that they possess "*all scripture...given by inspiration of God,*" 2 Timothy 3:16 although prior to Hodge and Warfield's declaration, Princeton Theological Seminary, under the

leadership of Archibald Hodge's father, Charles Hodge, had insisted on the inerrancy of the Traditional Text, embodied in English as the 1611 Authorised King James Bible.

It is no accident therefore that Paul warned against those in the last times who were *“Traitors, heady, highminded”* 2 Timothy 3:4.

God's Witness

But God doesn't leave Himself without witness, even among the educated. Here's what one educated man said, in answer to notions about *“the originals”*:

William Lyons Phelps was Professor of English Literature at Yale University. He said this in 1923:

“We Anglo-Saxons have a better Bible than the French or the Germans or the Italians or the Spanish. Our English translation is even better than the original Hebrew and Greek. There is only one way to explain this: I have no theory to account for the so-called inspiration of the Bible, but I am confident that the Authorized Version was inspired.”

He was saying that the AV1611 is God's perfect word.

Specifically, why is the AV1611 the perfect word of God?

I advance several reasons obtained from Dr Peter S. Ruckman, PBI (2).

I believe they adequately summarise the case.

1. The Absence of Copyright (3) p 80

The *text* of the AV1611 in all its editions carries no copyright*.

All modern versions are copyrighted by their respective publishing companies.

“Copyright: Exclusive right given by law for term of years to author, designer, etc., or his assignee to print, publish, or sell, copies of his original work”. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary*, 5th Edition, 1964.

“By taking out a copyright on a so-called “Bible”, the copyright owner ADMITS that this is not God's word but THEIR OWN WORDS” (3) p 80.

*The following insert denoted by dark blue format is important with respect to attempts to copyright the 1611 Holy Bible.

See *“O Biblios” – The Book* www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ online version only, pp 20-21.

Eyre & Spottiswoode editions, a 1970 Thomas Nelson edition and a 1988 Collins edition contain copyright notifications. It is interesting to see what happened with these publishers.

Eyre & Spottiswoode had been the King's (Queen's) Printer after Robert Barker, who published the 1611 AV1611 as the King's Printer.

It is therefore VERY interesting that the Queen's Printer is now [Cambridge University Press](http://www.cambridge.org), who inherited the right when they took over the firm of [Eyre & Spottiswoode](http://www.eyre-spottiswoode.com) in 1990. Cambridge, of course, does not impose a modern copyright on the AV1611 and on the whole, the Cambridge Cameo and Concord AV1611 Editions are the best available AV1611s.

See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Authorized_King_James_Version.

“Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men” Proverbs 22:29.

The New York Times reported in October 1997 that Thomas Nelson Publishers had agreed to return approximately \$400,000 to shareholders in the fallout from a Securities and Exchange Commission case involving allegations of stock price manipulation.

See:

www.nytimes.com/1997/10/03/business/chief-of-thomas-nelson-settles-sec-case.html.

The Wall Street Journal reported in November, 2011 that Thomas Nelson had been taken over by Rupert Murdoch, as also stated in *The Riplinger Report – Issue #13*, February 2012.

See:

online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203707504577010283227448426.html.

Collins was taken over by Rupert Murdoch in 1989 and is now Harper Collins. See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HarperCollins.

Ironically, Harper Collins publishes *The Satanic Bible* by Anton La Vey, 1930-1997 i.e. 67 years, $6+7 = 13$, under its imprint Avon.

See:

www.harpercollins.com/books/Satanic-Bible-Anton-La-Vey/?isbn=9780380015399?AA=books_SearchBooks_17329.

Harper Collins also publishes the NIV under its division Zondervan.

See:

www.jesus-is-savior.com/False%20Religions/Wicca%20&%20Witchcraft/cos.htm.

See truthinheart.com/Zondervan.htm.

It appears that the Lord eventually loses patience with the ‘correctors,’ corrupters, ‘clarifiers’ and wannabe copyrightists of His Book such that He eventually does ***“deliver them into the hand of their enemies”*** 2 Kings 21:14, 2 Chronicles 25:20*.

*and ***“into the hand of spoilers”*** 2 Kings 17:20

By compiling the AV1611 when He did, God made sure the Holy Bible would consist of His words, not those of men. This brings us to our second reason.

2. The Time of Its Publication

The publication of the AV1611 took place before the rise of the “philosophy and vain deceit” Colossians 2:8, of the modern era

French atheists:

Jean-Paul Sartre, 1905-1980, was a 20th century existentialist philosopher. He believed man was alone in a hostile universe. See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean-Paul_Sartre.

This notion leads to hedonism, as stated in Isaiah 22:13, concerning rebellious Israel:

“Let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we shall die.”

Hedonism characterised much of 1960s radical student movements, the so-called ‘swinging sixties’ lifestyles and is still popular, still bringing forth its **“evil fruit”** as the Lord warned in Matthew 7:17, 18. See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swinging_London.

“No philosopher did more to foster atheism amongst Europe’s students after WW2 than Jean-Paul Sartre” – Rev Andrew Paton, Sartre and the Bible www.healthy-elements.com/Sartre.html.

Such fruit was the end product of Sartre’s work. He attacked belief in the God of the Bible almost all his life. See www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/ethics.html *Ethics: Pick or Choose* by Ray Cotton. Cotton states that *“From a dialogue recorded in 1980 when nearing his death, Sartre came very close to belief in God, perhaps even more than very close.”*

However, by then, as indicated above, the hedonistic damage to which Sartre’s atheism had contributed was done.

As Solomon said **“...one sinner destroyeth much good”** Ecclesiastes 9:18.

German rationalists:

Johann Semler, 1725-1791, claimed Jesus’ teachings only applied to the time when written. That teaching also leads to hedonism, via the notion that the Bible is no longer ‘relevant.’ Dr Hills states in *The King James Version Defended* pp 64-65 wilderness-cry.net/bible_study/books/kjv-defended/chapter3.html:

“Johann Semler (1725-91), professor at Halle, was the first textual critic to suggest that the New Testament manuscripts had been edited, not merely copied, by the ancient scribes...He was bold also in some of his conjectures concerning the New Testament text. For example, he believed that chapter 9 of 2 Corinthians was a fragment inserted by the scribes in its present location and that chapter 16 of Romans was originally a letter to the Corinthians that got attached to Romans by mistake...And in other respects also Semler revealed himself as one of the first modernists. He believed that both the Old and the New Testament canons had grown by degrees and that therefore the Scriptures were not inspired in the traditional sense. According to Semler, the teaching of Jesus and the Apostles contained Jewish conceptions of merely “local” and “temporal” value which it was the task of scientific exegesis to point out.”

See also:

How were the Changes Determined, A short history of the development of the critical apparatus used to analyze the Bible.

See history-perspective.com/critical_theories.html and this extract.

“The Textus Receptus is abandoned by the critics in the late 1700’s

“Johann Semler of Halle was a critic of the late 18th century influenced by the Dutch Arminians and the discoveries of Richard Simon [see below]. He rejected the deity of Jesus Christ and believed that revelation must be judged by human reason. The sophisticated mind should have no obligation to believe what is “unreasonable” in the Bible. He developed several critical theories.

- *He developed the accommodation theory. This theory posited that Jesus and the Apostles accommodated themselves to the culture of their time, including the prevalent prejudices and errors.*
- *Another theory developed by Semler was the recension theory, which assumed that the Received Text (the Textus Receptus) was an editorial recension created several centuries after the Apostles. Therefore, he believed that all orthodox doctrines were late additions.”*

See “O Biblios” – The Book www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ Sections 1.3.4, 9.4 with respect to so-called “recensions.

English deists:

John Locke championed human reason over God’s revelation in scripture. See *John Locke on Reason and Faith* by Dr Jan Garrett www.wku.edu/~jan.garrett/rsn&fth.htm and note these extracts:

“Locke’s Essay Concerning Human Understanding, first published in 1689, has a lot to say concerning the relation between reason and faith...in his later years Locke was a Unitarian...”

“Locke’s writings were widely read in New England during the eighteenth century and thus exercised considerable influence on the liberal Protestants who eventually gave rise to American Unitarianism. This is attested to by George Willis Cooke in his respected History of American Unitarianism (Cooke 1902, 12-13). Cooke writes that “Unitarianism had its origin...in the teachings of men who were counted orthodox in England but who favored submitting all theological problems to the test of reason... It was an effort to make religion practical, to give it a basis in reality, and to establish it as acceptable to the sound judgment and common sense of all men.”

Aside from the observation that sense is not common, in that as Solomon says **“yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live”** Ecclesiastes 9:3, it only a short step then to resuscitate the old lie of random evolution against God’s special creation.

The Psalmist’s comment on human reason is in Psalm 39:5.

“Verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity.”

But in 1604, before all this, God could select men for compiling the AV1611 whose minds were not corrupted by **“philosophy and vain deceit”** Colossians 2:8.

A post-script:

Modern Textual Critics:

They began to attack the AV1611 soon after its publication and the first of them was Richard Simon, who was a ROMAN CATHOLIC priest (4) p 91. Rome never changes.

The Publication of the AV1611 took place when the reign of Bloody Mary was still in living memory

It has been said “Rome is as meek as a lamb when in the minority, cunning as a fox when in equality and fierce as a tigress when in the majority.” See *Smokescreens* by Jack T. Chick www.chick.com/catalog/books/0153.asp p 32.

The King James translators had seen Rome in the majority, during Bloody Mary’s reign, 1555-1558. They had either witnessed or knew of executions of Protestant believers such as Latimer and Ridley, who were burned at the stake.

They repudiated Rome’s traditions and the corrupted scriptural texts that supported her traditions.

Many AV1611 readings show the rejection of Romish doctrine. Matthew 1:25 in the AV1611 contains the word “**firstborn**” with respect to Jesus Christ, against the Roman tradition of Mary’s perpetual virginity.

But the NIV* omits this word, in line with the JB, NJB, the Catholic Jerusalem and New Jerusalem Bibles respectively. *The 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs all omit “**firstborn**” from Matthew 1:25.

3. The Honesty of Its Preservation

Use of Italics

The AV1611 translators inserted words in Italics which had no direct equivalents in the Hebrew or Greek texts but which were necessary for:

Clarity: 2 Samuel 21:19 “*the brother of*” in Italics

Accuracy: 2 Timothy 3:16 “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God,*” “*is*” in Italics.

Good English style and grammatical sense: Job 26:2 “*How hast thou helped him that is without power? how savest thou the arm that hath no strength?*” “*Him that is,*” “*how*” and “*that hath*” are in Italics.

The translators also rendered the second part of 1 John 2:23 in Italics because it was absent from the Received Text, although attested by other ancient witnesses. See the TBS *Quarterly Record*, No. 453, Oct.-Dec. 1975, Gipp (7) p 52.

See samgipp.com/answerbook/?page=11.htm Question 11.

See also groups.yahoo.com/group/KingJamesBible/message/13342 *KJV 1 John 2:23 – Martin A. Shue.*

Public Reports on Progress

As work on the AV1611 progressed, the translators kept the rest of the clergy informed and invited help from them (5) p 103.

They were genuinely ‘transparent.’

4. The Instruments of its Preservation

King James I, The British Solomon

Called:

“*The wisest fool in Christendom*” by King Henry IV of France

“*God’s silly vassal*” by Andrew Melville, the Presbyterian

“*A filthy sodomite*” by Jacob Prasch, Moriel Ministries

The following statements are extracts from *Battle Cry* September/October 1985. They list some of James 1st’s achievements:

1. United the feuding tribes of Scotland into one nation.
2. United Scotland and England, laying the groundwork for the British Empire, birthplace of the greatest missionary movement of the modern age.
3. Founded of the Province of Ulster, for many years the most Bible-believing part of the UK.
4. First earthly monarch on record to encourage the propagation of God’s word in the language of the people (4) p 164.
5. Believed in salvation by grace and in the word of God, never wavering from his personal adherence to Protestant belief.
6. Broke the back of witchcraft in Scotland. That would be like outlawing rock music and Harry Potter today.

7. Gave Royal Assent to the Puritan proposal for a new Bible translation, 1604. Far superior to what his descendent has given Royal Assent to in recent years.

Both Lady Antonia Fraser, distinguished historian and Stephen Coston, Jr, in his book *King James Unjustly Accused?* have refuted the charge of sodomy against James.

I informed Jacob Prasch about this but he persisted in slandering James 1st.

Romans 14:10 will settle the matter*.

“But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.”

*If Prasch is there. Otherwise Revelation 20:12 will settle the matter.

“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”

Scholars of 1611

(6) pp 13-24

These were some of the 47 men chosen to produce the 1611 Bible.

1. *Dr John Reynolds*

He was the Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, 1585. Reynolds was the leading Puritan who petitioned the king for a new translation of the Bible. Noted as a distinguished Greek and Hebrew scholar, “*his memory and reading were near to a miracle.*”

2. *Dr Miles Smith*

He was Bishop of Gloucester, 1612 and writer of the preface to the AV1611, *The Translators to the Reader*. “*He had Hebrew at his fingers’ ends; and he was so conversant with Chaldee, Syriac, and Arabic, that he made them as familiar to him as his native tongue.*”

3. *Dr Laurence Chaderton*

He was Fellow of Christ’s College and a noted Puritan. Distinguished as a Latin, Greek and Hebrew Scholar, he was still actively preaching at age 85. His sermons had won about 40 of the clergy to Christ.

4. *Dr John Boys*

Fellow of St. John’s, Cambridge, to which he was admitted at age 14. He was able to read Hebrew at the age of 5. A distinguished Greek scholar, he sometimes devoted himself to his studies of Greek in the university library from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m.

5. *Dr Lancelot Andrewes*

He was Bishop of Winchester and Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth 1. “*His knowledge in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac and Arabic...was so advanced that he may be ranked as one of the rarest linguists in Christendom.*”

6. *Dr Richard Kilbye*

Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford, 1610 and an excellent Hebrew scholar, who was also expert in Greek.

He once heard a young preacher give three reasons why a particular word in the AV1611 should have been translated differently. He explained to the young preacher how he and others had considered all three reasons *“and found thirteen more considerable reasons why it was translated as now printed.”*

Many have followed, however, in that young preacher’s train.

7. *Dr John Overall*

Latin scholar and leading authority on scripture citations by the church fathers. As Dean of St Paul’s, John Overall took time away from his translation work to bear witness of the Gospel of Christ to the Jesuit Father Henry Garnett, on his way to the scaffold for complicity in the Gunpowder Plot of November 5th 1605. John Overall urged upon Garnett *“a true and lively faith to God-ward.”* Garnett told Overall ‘not to bother’ and continued on to his execution. John Overall returned to his translation work.

Characteristic of the scholarly approach of the King’s men was their thoroughness. They each had to translate the Books of the Bible allocated to them. Present-day translating groups do not follow this practice. See *Defending the King James Bible*, by Donald Waite, pp 80ff.

The Materials Used

(11) p 42

The Preface to the now largely defunct Revised Standard Version tells us that the AV1611 was based essentially on *“a few medieval manuscripts.”*

The truth is otherwise. The translators possessed:

1. All preceding printed English and foreign language Bibles. These included the Jesuit Rheims Version of 1582.
2. The printed Greek texts of Erasmus, Stephanus and Beza, called the Received Text or Textus Receptus.
3. The Complutensian Polyglot with the Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Old Testament and the Antwerp Polyglot of 1569-1572, (12) p 12.
4. Several important uncial manuscripts and a great mass of cursive manuscripts.
5. The Old Latin.
6. The Italic, Gallic and Celtic versions.
7. Jerome’s Latin Vulgate.
8. Variant readings from Codices A and B (6) pp 250-254. B, Vaticanus, is responsible for many modern variations from the AV1611.

“The translators of 1611 had substantially the same selection of readings from which to choose as did the revisers of 1881, 1952, 1973 and 1979”.

5. The Fruits of Its Preservation

1. The manuscript pedigree shows that the AV1611 is essentially the Bible of Antioch, where *“the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch”* Acts 11:26. Early missionaries like the Waldenses began the task of world evangelisation with the scriptures of Antioch. English Methodists and Bible-believing Baptists, such as William Carey, carried world evangelisation forward, with the AV1611, to the ends of the earth, Acts 1:8.
2. The AV1611 was translated into Indian and Chinese dialects long before 1890.
3. Every major language and people had access to the AV1611 Text in their own language before 1901.
4. All revivals, reformation, soul-winning and interest in Bible study follow this Text.
5. Material prosperity, political stability, humanitarian effort, progress in art, literature, music, science and technology and the emergence of a stable, productive, law abiding, morally upright, educated ‘middle class’ follow the dissemination of this Text.
6. The acknowledged great men of God; Bunyan, Wesley, Carey, Moody, Finney, Spurgeon and others follow this Text, for all or most of their public ministries.

Spurgeon preached using the RV not long before God took him home, which was probably not a coincidence.

However, he said this to his students about the AV1611 a few months before his death. It is effectively his last word on the subject. See *The Greatest Fight in the World* www.spurgeon.org/misc/gfw.htm.

“It is sadly common among ministers to add or subtract a word from the passage, or in some way debase the language of sacred writ. Our reverence for the Great Author of Scripture should forbid all mauling of His Words.

“No alteration of Scripture can by any possibility be an improvement. Today it is still the self-same mighty Word of God that it was in the hands of our Lord Jesus.

“If this Book be not infallible, where shall we find infallibility? We have given up the Pope, for he has blundered often and terrible, but we shall not set up instead of him a horde of little popelings, fresh from college.

“Are these correctors of Scripture infallible? Is it certain that our Bibles are not right, but that the critics must be so? But where shall infallibility be found? The depth saith, ‘It is not in me’ yet those who have no depth at all would have us imagine that it is in them; or else by perpetual change they hope to hit upon it!

“We shall gradually be so bedoubted and becriticized that only a few...will know what is Bible and what is not, and they will dictate to the rest of us. I have no more faith in their mercy than in their accuracy.

“They will rob us of all that we hold most dear, and glory in the cruel deed. This same ‘reign of terror’ we will not endure, for we still believe that God reveals Himself rather to babes than to the wise and prudent. We do not despise learning, but we will never say of culture or criticism, ‘These be thy gods, O Israel.’

“To those who belittle inspiration and inerrancy we will give place by subjection, no, not for an hour!”

Spurgeon also said:

“The craving to alter the Word of God is ACCURSED; this is the crime of the present day; the Lord preserve us from it.” See prophets-see-all.tripod.com/46631.htm.

If you believe the AV1611 contains errors, who showed them to you, God or the Devil? If you believe it was God, then the Devil must have been prompting Spurgeon to make the statements he did.

The Devil must be behind all efforts to promote the AV1611 as the pure word of God.

Interesting state of affairs, isn't it?

Especially when one considers the ‘fruits’ of the modern translations.

American evangelist, Dr Gipp (9) p 113, has this analysis:

“Today’s modern translations haven’t been able to spark a revival in a Christian school, let alone be expected to close a bar. In fact, since the arrival of our modern English translations, beginning with the ASV of 1901, America has seen:

1. *God and prayer kicked out of our public schools.*
2. *Abortion on demand legalised.*
3. *Homosexuality accepted nationally as an “alternate life style”.*
4. *In home pornography via TV and VCR.*
5. *Child kidnapping and pornography running rampant.*
6. *Dope has become an epidemic.*
7. *Satanism is on the rise.*

“If this is considered a “revival” then let’s turn back to the King James to STOP it.”

For a British evaluation of the results of rejecting the AV1611 and the corrupt fruit of the modern versions, Luke 6:43-45, see *Britain in Sin*, 1998, available from *Christian Voice*, Wernlwyd, Pen-y-bont, Carmarthen, SA33 6QN.

See www.christianvoice.org.uk/?page_id=79.

See also the websites of *The Christian Institute* www.christian.org.uk/ and *Christian Concern for Our Nation* www.christianconcern.com/ for updated details of Britain’s moral and spiritual decline.

I could add:

- *Subversion by the EU*, thanks to corrupt politicians and clergy.

See *The Principality and Power of Europe* by Adrian Hilton ISBN 0-9518386-2-8 and eutruth.org.uk/.

- *Unrestricted foreign immigration*, aimed at destroying Britain.

See www.migrationwatchuk.org/.

- *Mohammedans aiming at the Islamification of Britain*.

See:

www.barnabasfund.org/Islamist-group-pilots-sharia-controlled-zone.html

Islamist group pilots “sharia-controlled zone” and related article *Islamists call for sharia in British “emirates”* via reported link.

- *Sodomy openly encouraged by national leaders*, to the point of aiming to legalise sodomite ‘marriage.’

See www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/9425174/We-will-legalise-gay-marriage-by-2015-says-David-Cameron.html *We will legalise gay marriage by 2015, says David Cameron.*

- *Corruption of children via the internet*. No wonder it’s called ‘the web.’ See www.christian.org.uk/news/esther-rantzen-kids-are-haunted-by-internet-porn/ *Esther Rantzen* [founder of child helpline Childline]: *Kids are ‘haunted’ by internet porn. “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” 1 Corinthians 15:33.*

6. The Pre-eminent Place It Gives to the Lord Jesus Christ

Compare Isaiah 9:6 in an AV1611 with the 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs, NKJV.

The modern translations drop the definite article that identifies the Lord Jesus Christ as **“The mighty God, The everlasting father, The Prince of Peace.”** Note the capital **“T.”**

Compare Acts 3:13, 26 in an AV1611 with the 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs, NKJV.

The Lord Jesus Christ is demoted from God’s **“Son”** to God’s **“servant.”** It is even a small **“s.”**

Compare Acts 4:27, 30 in an AV1611 with the 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs, NKJV.

“Thy holy child” becomes **“thy holy servant.”** However, the context of Acts 4:27-30 refers to Psalm 2:1-2.

“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed...”

See Acts 4:25-26.

“Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.”

The modern reading therefore violates Psalm 2:7, 12.

“I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee...Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.”

Compare Acts 7:45, Hebrews 4:8 in an AV1611 with the 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs, NKJV.

“Jesus” is changed to **“Joshua”** but the AV1611 reading is correct.

***“And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?”* Joshua 5:13, 14.**

And the Lord Jesus Christ is still our Captain, Hebrews 2:10.

“For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

For a definitive analysis of attacks on the Deity of Christ in the modern versions see the work by Dr Mrs Gail Riplinger (8) and the work by C. Salliby *If The Foundations Be Destroyed*, 1994, available from B. McCall Barbour, 28 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1ES.

7. The Pride and Inconsistency of Its Critics

Critics accuse the AV1611 as follows:

The AV1611 contains many archaic words which need to be updated.

Such words are easily explained.

Such words could easily be explained in the margin or in a glossary without altering the Text.

Comprehensive but inexpensive glossaries are available (9).

See also *The Language of the King James Bible* and *In Awe of Thy Word* Parts 1-4 by Dr Mrs Gail Riplinger www.avpublications.com/avnew/home.html with respect to the AV1611's own built-in dictionary.

Note the following example with respect to the word "*premeditate*."

"But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost."

The word "*premeditate*," therefore, as the prefix "*pre*" suggests, means to think beforehand or ahead of time. See www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/why-the-av-only-7434.php *Twist and Curl - Your Fiendly Neighbourhood Bible Correctors, Not a Misspelling* for many more examples.

The 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs, NKJV distort the wording of the verse so that the application of the built-in dictionary for an important English word that even has legal application is lost and the 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs omit it.

Many supposedly archaic words are little changed from their modern equivalents and may be found in *The Concise Oxford Dictionary*.

AV1611 modernisms

The AV1611 contains many 'modernisms.' Examples are *addict* (!), *artillery*, *God save the king*, *powers that be*, *head in the clouds*, *housekeeping* (!), *communication*, *learn by experience*, *labour of love*, *shambles*, *advertise*, *publish*, *beer* (!), *the course of nature* etc.

Ordinary folk quote the AV1611 all the time, e.g. "*many a time*" Psalm 78:38, "*had a good day*" Esther 8:17, "*a good while ago*" Acts 15:7 etc. See *English phrases and sayings that derive from the Bible* www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/bible-phrases-sayings.html.

The critics are inconsistent, in that they ignore these modernisms in the AV1611.

"Thees," "thous" and modern feminazis

Much of the "*archaic words*" criticism is directed against the personal pronouns "*thee*" and "*thou*" etc. However, these supposedly archaic forms enable the reader to distinguish between the second person singular ('thee') and the second person plural ('you'), a distinction lost in modern English.

Note Genesis 2:16-17, 24, 3:1-3 and the rise of modern feminism or feminazism that is revealed by the AV1611 but concealed by the modern versions that replaced "*thee*" and "*thou*" with "*you*."

“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.”

God used the singular “*thou*” when speaking to Adam in Genesis 2:16-17 and He did not update it in scripture to the plural “*Ye*” after Adam received his wife because they were “*one flesh.*”

The Devil, a positive thinker, drove a wedge between Adam and his wife by using the plural “*Ye*” by which “*the woman being deceived was in the transgression*” 1 Timothy 2:14 in that she wrongly replied with the plural “*We*” and “*ye.*” That simple but wrong reply indicated a willingness on the part of the woman to be independent of her husband that the Devil successfully exploited to the ruin of men such that by the time of Genesis 6:11 “*The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.*”

The woman’s reply depicting herself as separate from her husband has in it, additionally to the pending Fall, the seeds of the modern feminazi movement that is especially destructive to marriage, home, church and family.

See www.jesus-is-savior.com/Womens%20Page/militant_feminazi.htm.

Eve, Genesis 3:20, could have replied “*No! God said ‘thou shalt not eat of it’ because Adam and me are “*one flesh.*” Take a hike, Lucifer [Isaiah 14:12]!”*

Such a definitive reply would have saved a lot of grief over the last six millennia but its potential is obscured in the modern versions, which itself provides further insight into who is behind them.

More on the AV1611’s built-in dictionary

The Bible itself should be the guide in the treatment of ‘archaic’ words. See 1 Samuel 9:9, 11. The ‘archaic’ word “*seer*” is explained, 1 Samuel 9:9 but retained in the Text, 1 Samuel 9:11 (7) Question 4 and samgipp.com/answerbook/ Question 4.

The critics are inconsistent in that they profess to honour the scriptures but in supposedly updating words, they ignore the scripture.

A definitive work on supposedly archaic words in the AV1611 is *Archaic Words and the Authorized Version*, by Dr Laurence M. Vance, 1996 ISBN 0-962-8898-4-9.

The AV1611 is hard to understand and therefore we need modern versions.

Dr Mrs Gail Riplinger (8) pp 195-214, cites the results of a survey carried out by the Flesch-Kincaid Research Company on the ease of reading of various Bible versions, including the 1978, 1984 NIVs and NKJV.

The AV1611 was found to be the easiest Bible to read in 23 of 26 comparisons.

The AV1611 is the easiest to memorise. The NIV is particularly defective in this respect because it uses, on average, twice as many syllables as the AV1611 in any given passage.

The critics ignore these findings, naturally.

The AV1611 was not hard to understand for those converted under its preaching, when it was, supposedly, 120 years out of date:

“Two hundred miners standing in the field near the colliery at Bedworth, Warwickshire, listened with astonishment while a young Oxford graduate explained how they might have their sins forgiven. In the town of Bedworth colliers were rated heathen, animals, brutes who had no use in life other than to wrest coal from the earth. To be treated with respect and interest was a new experience. The unlicensed preacher could see “white gutters made by their tears, which plentifully fell down their black cheeks.”

“It was a new experience for George Whitefield as well...” (10) p 291.

The AV1611 is a translation and translations are made by imperfect men. Therefore the AV1611 must be imperfect.

Imperfect men wrote the originals.

Moses murdered a man, Exodus 2:12.

David committed adultery and murder, 2 Samuel 11:2, 15, 21.

Solomon apostatised, 1 Kings 11:1-8.

Daniel committed sacrilege, Daniel 2:46.

Peter cursed, swore and denied the Lord, Matthew 26:74.

Paul disobeyed the Lord and spent two years in prison, Acts 21:4, 11-13, 24:27.

John tried to worship an angel, not once but twice, Revelation 19:10, 22:8, 9.

Moreover, if a translation is held to be imperfect for that reason, what of the ORIGINALS for:

Moses' conversations with Pharaoh, Exodus 4-14

Peter's speech from Joel, Acts 2:17-20

The reading from Isaiah 53 in Acts 8:32

Paul's speech in Acts 22:2-21?

The written originals of these passages were translations. Were THEY imperfect? The critics don't think so, which is somewhat *“inconsistent.”*

Remember above all that God has promised to PRESERVE the word, which He gave by inspiration:

“The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation forever” Psalm 12:6, 7.

See www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ *The purification of the Lord’s word - Psalm 12v6, 7.*

If the Lord can inspire His words, 2 Timothy 3:16, through imperfect men, surely He can preserve them, through imperfect men.

Good, godly men corrected the AV1611 on occasion, so it must need correcting.

When any man **“holds the truth in unrighteousness”** Romans 1:18, by exalting HIS own authority over that of the BIBLE, he CEASES to be ‘good’ and he ceases to be ‘godly.’

The original edition of the AV1611 contained the Apocrypha and the AV1611 still has pro-catholic readings.

The Apocrypha in the AV1611 was contained BETWEEN the Testaments.

It was NOT part of the Old Testament and was not stated to be scripture in the title page of the AV1611.

The TBS informed me that it was customary for *all* Bibles printed in the 16th and early 17th centuries to contain the Apocrypha, so the criticism cannot be confined to the AV1611.

The supposed *“pro-catholic”* readings in the AV1611 are insufficient for it to be sold by the Catholic Truth Society, although the CTS do sell the NIV!

The AV1611 is obscure in some passages and inaccurate in others and therefore it should be improved.

Compare *“Nephilim”* Genesis 6:3, *“curds”* Isaiah 7:15, *“carved stones”* Numbers 33:52, *“demons”* Matthew 4:24, 7:22, 8:16 etc. and *“Hades”* Revelation 1:18, 6:8, 20:13 in the NIV to the AV1611 renderings **“giants,” “butter,” “pictures,” “devils”** and **“hell.”** Which is more ‘obscure?’

Note that *“demons”* and *“Hades”* have been left as transliterations, not translations even though as the AV1611 shows, those words can be translated into familiar English words. The terms *“demons”* and *“Hades”* occur repeatedly in the NIV, NKJV but neither the NIV nor the NKJV transliterated *“ouranos”* for **“heaven”**!

Surely the modern critics are being *“inconsistent”*!

See www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/why-the-av-only-7434.php *Twist and Curl - Your Fiendly Neighbourhood Bible Correctors, Not a Misspelling* pp 67, 77 for more information on the words *demons*” and *“Hades.”*

We have already seen that the AV1611 correctly translates **“Jesus”** in Acts 7:45 and Hebrews 4:8. Comparison of scripture with scripture, **“spiritual things with spiritual”** 1 Corinthians 2:13, John 6:63, will always vindicate the AV1611 reading.

The AV1611 of today is not the same as the original AV1611 but has been changed in 20,000 places. Therefore we can legitimately introduce MORE changes.

The changes in the AV1611 are mainly changes in spelling, punctuation, Italics, marginal references, capitalisations and rectification of printing errors.

According to the American Bible Society, 1852 *“The English Bible as left by the translators has come down to us unaltered in respect to its text”* (11) p 43.

Sometimes the critics will highlight that the original AV1611 has **“he”** in Ruth 3:15, while today’s Editions have **“she”**.

But each Edition is correct because BOTH Ruth and Boaz **“went into the city”**. See Ruth 3:16, 4:1.

Changes in the modern versions include elimination of words, phrases, verses and whole passages of scripture, resulting in weakening of scriptural testimony to fundamental doctrine, e.g. the virgin birth, the blood atonement, salvation by faith alone and the deity of Christ. See www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ *“O Biblios”* – *The Book* Chapters 7, 10 for numerous examples.

These changes are therefore of an entirely different NATURE from those in the AV1611 Editions. *“Things different are not equal.”*

The AV1611 may be tolerated but it is still inferior to “the Greek” or to “the Original.”

For a start, you don’t have *“the Original.”*

Anything you have is better than what you don’t have in that it can be put to some use.

You could a Catholic to the Lord with a JB. It’s been done.

You could lead a JW to the Lord with a NWT. It’s been done.

You couldn’t lead either of them anywhere with the non-existent *“Original.”*

With respect to the Greek, the question should be asked, WHICH Greek?

There are about two dozen different Greek texts (4) p 150.

They can roughly be divided into three groups:

1. The Received Text, such as the editions of Erasmus, Stephanus, Beza etc. The AV1611 is based on this Text.
2. The Alexandrian text, such as those of Tregelles, Tischendorf, Griesbach, Hort and Nestle. Most modern translations are based on this text.
3. The ‘Majority text’ by Farstad and Hodges, 1982 and Robinson and Pierpont, 1991 (12) pp 73-74. This text is the basis for the NKJV.

The 26th edition of Nestle (1979) restored 467 readings from the Received Text, which had been deleted in previous editions for the past 100 years (4) p vi.

Nestle’s editors supposedly did this on the basis of evidence from the papyri but that shows that Receptus readings actually pre-date Alexandrian readings (1) p 329.

Maybe it was ‘peer pressure’ from some of the ‘brethren’!

It does seem *“inconsistent”*!

There are at least 8 reasons why the AV1611 is in fact superior to ‘the Greek’ - and to ‘the Original’ (4) pp 332-343:

1. The AV1611 uses **“synagogues”** in Psalm 74:8, instead of the Hebrew *“meeting places,”* showing that the reference is yet future, to the great tribulation.
2. The Pre-millennial order of the books from 2 Chronicles to Psalms in the AV1611 preserves the order of events in the history of Israel from the destruction of Jerusalem 70 A.D. to the Second Advent. This order is superior to that of the Hebrew Bible.
3. In an age ruled by the television, **“pictures”** in Numbers 33:52 is far superior to the original Hebrew of *“carved stones.”*
4. The AV1611 alone uses **“forces”** in Daniel 11:38 instead of the literal Hebrew *“fortresses.”* The AV1611 reading is superior because it is a reference to the use of electricity, Luke 10:18, the highest form of energy, especially in the tribulation. See Revelation 13:13. It virtually rules our lives now.
5. The AV1611 has **“churches”** in Acts 19:37, showing where heathen devoted to the **“queen of heaven”** Jeremiah 7:18, 44:17, 18, 19, 25 actually WORSHIP. This is far superior to the ‘original Greek,’ which gives *“temples.”*
6. The AV1611 has **“Easter”** in Acts 12:4 instead of the literal Greek equivalent *“Passover.”* Herod was an Edomite and would therefore observe Easter, not the Passover, which is informative about Easter!
7. The tense of the Greek in Galatians 2:20 is *“I have been crucified”* but Luke 9:23 shows that a man is to take up the cross DAILY. The AV1611 reading, **“I am crucified”** is therefore both correct and superior to ‘the Greek.’
8. The AV1611 alone has **“corrupt”** in 2 Corinthians 2:17, where the ‘original Greek’ is *“peddle”* according to the modern revisers. The AV1611 is superior because it is warning you against modern Bible corrupters.

Many critics of the AV1611 may still insist with Ricker Berry, editor of Stephanus’ 3rd Edition of New Testament Greek that:

“Without some knowledge of Greek and Hebrew, you cannot be an independent student, or reliable interpreter of the word of God”.

In other words:

I KNOW GREEK AND YOU DON’T. THEREFORE YOU WILL HAVE TO COME TO ME (OR BUY MY BOOKS) TO FIND OUT WHAT GOD ACTUALLY SAID.

It’s what’s called an ego trip, for individuals who maybe haven’t done much in life except book learning. They are what Spurgeon called *“little popelings”*! See **5. The Fruits of Its Preservation.**

The Bible calls it being **“wise in your own conceits”** Romans 11:25.

Interestingly, ‘Translation’ is always an improvement in scripture:

“So do God to Abner, and more also, except, as the LORD hath sworn to David, even so I do to him; To translate the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba” 2 Samuel 3:10.

“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son” Colossians 1:13.

“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God” Hebrews 11:5.

For summary analyses of ‘the Greek’ see www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/james-white-dr-divietro-and-dawaite.php *Seven aspects of ‘the Greek’* and *Seven aspects of ‘in the Greek.’* These are two overlapping but separate studies.

The AV is out of date and modern man needs a modern version.

“The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason” Proverbs 26:16.

Critics of the AV1611 should note that:

1. NO Bible version has received anything like the criticisms that have been levelled at the AV1611, as this list shows.
2. Modern versions come and go, with well over 100* appearing in the last 100 years (12). None last for more than a few decades.

*The total from 1881 to 2010 is 253.

See baptist-potluck.blogspot.co.uk/2010/08/bible-versions-since-1881.html.

3. God Himself has intervened at times to deprive some of the more prominent revisers of the power of speech (8) pp 446-452.

Those affected include:

Samuel Tregelles, early editor of a Hort-Nestle type text

Brooke Foss Westcott, co-editor of the 1881-1885 RV, with Fenton Hort, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revised_Version

Philip Schaff, editor of the ASV text, which is similar to the NIV

Kenneth Taylor of the ‘Living’ bible

J.B. Phillips, whose New Testament bears his name

Dr Don Wilkins of the NASV Translation Committee was suddenly unable to speak on the John Ankerberg Christian TV show when asked if modern bible translators had lost their voices.

This happened in 1995. Ankerberg, a Christian fundamentalist, hushed it up. See www.ankerberg.com/ankerberg-articles/wilkins.html.

He didn’t believe in Paul’s exhortation to ***“provide things honest in the sight of all men”*** Romans 12:17 as one of the fundamentals. Wilkins only suffered a temporary loss of speech but Ankerberg still hushed up the incident.

See www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeLSfqemyu4 for the account by Dr Sam Gipp, who was present when the incident occurred. The embedded filmstrip, which was taped over the original strip, shows Ankerberg asking Drs Barker, Farstad and Wilkins, representatives if the NIV, NKJV, NASV translation committees respectively if any member of their committees had died, gone insane or been struck dumb. Naturally they all replied in the negative, implying that it was

therefore all right to go on *“as many, which corrupt the word of God”* 2 Corinthians 2:17.

They all forgot Ecclesiastes 8:11.

“Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.”

They will all have cause to remember when they **“shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ”** Romans 14:10.

Psalm 12:3 should be a warning to all:

“The Lord shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things.”

8. Finally

You may remember the scene in *Treasure Island*, where the pirates are besieging Captain Smollett and the loyal crew in the stockade.

Captain Smollett has raised the colours, the Union flag and the pirates are ranging on it with the ship's cannon.

R.L. Stevenson takes up the story through the pen of Dr Livesey:

“At the second trial, the aim was better, and the ball descended inside the stockade, scattering a cloud of sand, but doing no further damage.

“‘Captain,’ said the squire, ‘the house is quite invisible from the ship. It must be the flag they are aiming at. Would it not be wiser to take it in?’

“‘Strike my colours!’ cried the captain. ‘No, sir, not I;’ and, as soon as he said the words, I think we all agreed with him...it showed our enemies that we despised their cannonade.”

Remember the challenge we started with, issued by De Witt Talmage all those years ago.

It matters not who stands with Satan behind the Devil's guns.

We Bible believers will despise their cannonade.

According to our Captain's exhortation, Revelation 18:6, we will ***“double unto them according to their works”*** with the Olde Booke, the sevenfold tempered steel sword blade of the English Protestant Reformation, Ephesians 6:17.

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”

Amen.

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The Author

Alan O'Reilly came to know the Lord Jesus Christ in 1967 while a student in Chemical Engineering at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, through the ministry of the Navigators.

He came to England in 1978 to work for ICI on Teesside and in 1980 joined the University of Teesside as a lecturer in Chemical Engineering.

Alan was drawn to the Bible translation issue by the publications of American tract evangelist Jack Chick and he began to research this subject in 1985.

Alan's book "*O Biblios – The Book* is the outcome of that research and includes responses to the major criticisms of the Authorised Version.

This paper *The AV1611 – The Pure Word of God* is an [updated] extract from Alan's book and the author hopes that through its circulation:

- We should all be encouraged to believe that the Authorised Version is God's perfect word and "***all scripture***" that "***is given by inspiration of God***" 2 Timothy 3:16
- In the words of the Apostle Paul in Philippians 1:28, we should be "***in nothing terrified by your adversaries.***"